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✓ Latest release

Labour Account Australia

The Australian Labour Account provides quarterly time series data, consisting of four quadrants: Jobs, Persons, Hours and Payments

Reference period March 2026

Released 5/06/2026

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Key statistics

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026:

- total jobs increased 0.7% to 16.5 million
- filled jobs increased 0.6% to 16.2 million
- secondary jobs increased 0.6% to 1.1 million
- proportion of vacant jobs increased to 2.1%
- multiple job-holders increased 0.3% to 978,000
- hours worked increased 0.9% to 6.1 billion hours.

Key statistics - Seasonally adjusted

	Mar-26	Quarterly change (%)	Annual change (%)
Jobs			
Total jobs	16,529,000	0.7%	2.0%
Filled jobs	16,185,000	0.6%	1.9%
Job vacancies	344,000	5.2%	4.1%
Main jobs	15,091,900	0.6%	1.8%
Secondary jobs	1,093,100	0.6%	3.4%
Proportion of vacant jobs	2.1%	na	na
People			
Employed people	15,109,700	0.7%	1.8%
Multiple job holders	978,000	0.3%	2.1%
Multiple job holding rate	6.5%	na	na
Hours			
Hours actually worked	6,104.1 million	0.9%	2.2%
Payments			
Average income per employed person	\$25,825.40	0.5%	3.9%

Key statistics - Trend

	Mar-26	Quarterly change (%)	Annual change (%)
Jobs			
Total jobs	16,509,900	0.5%	1.6%
Filled jobs	16,170,700	0.5%	1.6%
Job vacancies	339,200	0.9%	0.9%
Main jobs	15,074,800	0.4%	1.6%
Secondary jobs	1,095,900	0.8%	2.5%
Proportion of vacant jobs	2.1%	na	na
People			
Employed people	15,093,600	0.6%	1.7%
Multiple job holders	980,100	0.7%	1.6%
Multiple job holding rate	6.5%	na	na
Hours			
Hours actually worked	6,090.5 million	0.7%	2.0%
Payments			
Average income per employed person	\$25,855.00	0.7%	4.2%

Upcoming changes to this release

As part of the ABS plans to [modernise the Labour Force Survey \(/about/key-priorities/data-acquisition-modernisation-program/modernising-labour-force-survey\)](/about/key-priorities/data-acquisition-modernisation-program/modernising-labour-force-survey), there will be changes to content that feeds into the Labour Account. This will impact some Labour Account series.

The series affected are industry level outputs of unemployment, underemployment, and underutilisation, including series derived from these, Labour Force and Available hours of labour supply.

From the June 2026 Labour Account release onwards, these series are under review to investigate the impact of ABS modernisation. During the review, the Labour Account will not publish data for these series beyond the March 2026 quarter. The ABS will provide further advice on the dissemination strategy for these series in due course.

State article

The Labour Account plans to release an article containing indicative state and territory filled jobs and hours

worked estimates as part of the June 2026 publication (to be released on 4/09/2026).

These estimates will now use the ABS' Monthly Employee Earnings Indicator (MEEI) data as a key input, following the cessation of Weekly Payroll jobs in 2025. Concepts sources and methods will be updated to reflect this change.

Further information on these methodological changes will be provided alongside the article.

Experimental estimates of Unpaid care release

On 19/06/2026 the ABS will publish its next iteration of estimates of the total hours spent on unpaid care and their monetary value.

These measures improve the visibility of the contribution of unpaid care to society and the economy, alongside the extensive information on paid work already captured through the Labour Account.

Recent updates

Revisions this quarter



Data in the four quadrants of the Labour Account have been revised from the previously published estimates.

Revisions may be attributable to a range of factors, these include:

- revisions to Net Overseas Migration data
- revisions to data from the quarterly Australian National Accounts
- revisions to the Labour Force Survey data, including estimates of employment and hours worked.

The latest industry benchmark data in the Labour Account is for the 2023-24 financial year. Estimates from September quarter 2024 onwards are subject to revisions as indicator data is progressively replaced with more definitive benchmark information.

Revisions to published estimates are shown in Table 22 in the Data downloads section.

Further information on revisions in the Labour Account can be found in [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods \(/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/concepts-sources-methods/labour-statistics-concepts-sources-and-methods/2023/methods-four-pillars-labour-statistics/australian-labour-account#revisions-in-the-australian-labour-account\)](#).

Jobs

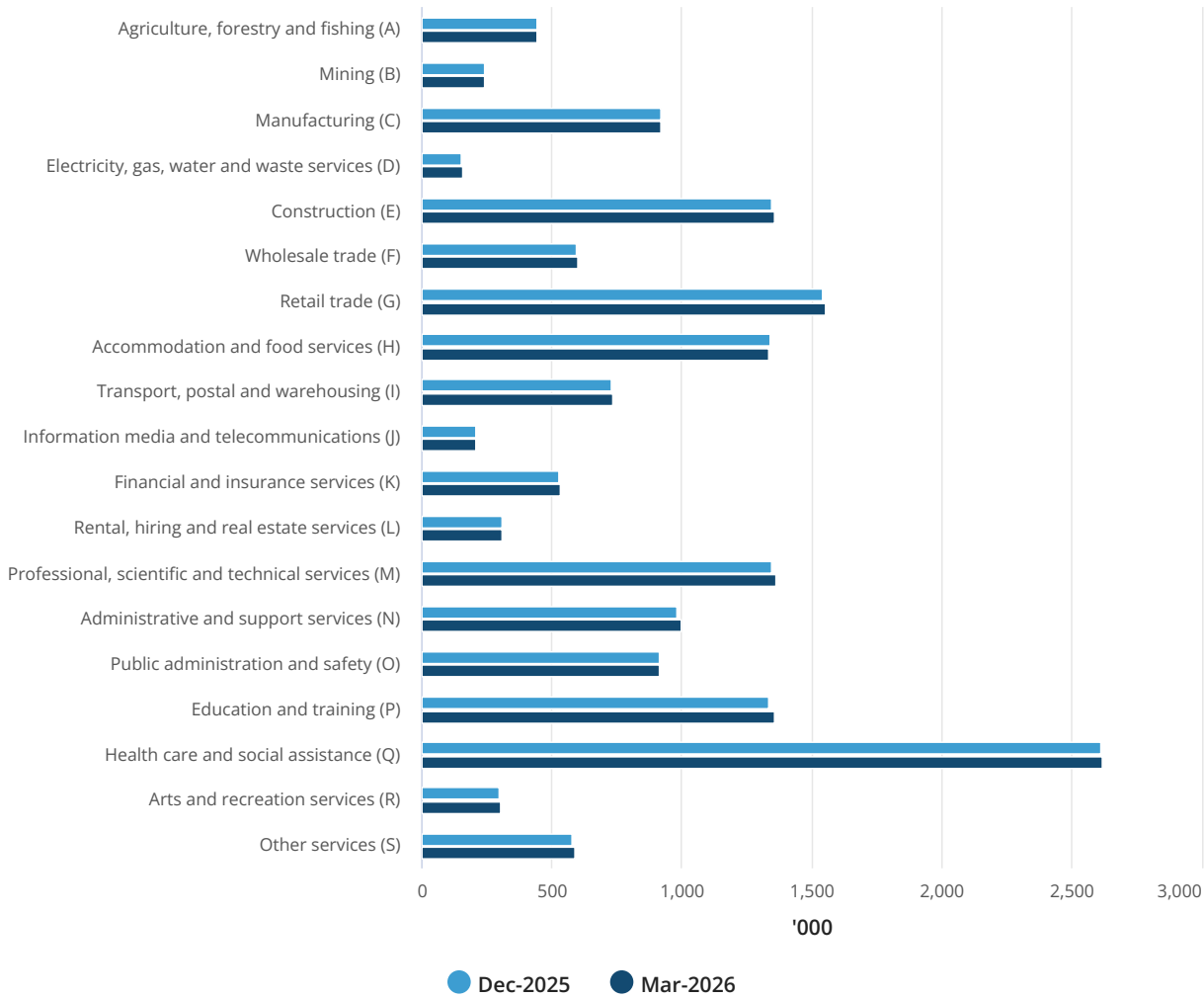
In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026:

- filled jobs increased by 0.6%, following a 0.3% rise in the December quarter 2025. Filled jobs grew by 1.9% through the year
- the number of main jobs increased by 92,600 (or 0.6%)
- the proportion of vacant jobs increased to 2.1%
- the number of public sector jobs increased by 0.1%, while the number of private sector jobs increased by 0.7%.

Total jobs

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026, the total number of jobs increased by 116,400 (or 0.7%). This consisted of a increase of 17,100 job vacancies and a increase of 99,400 filled jobs.

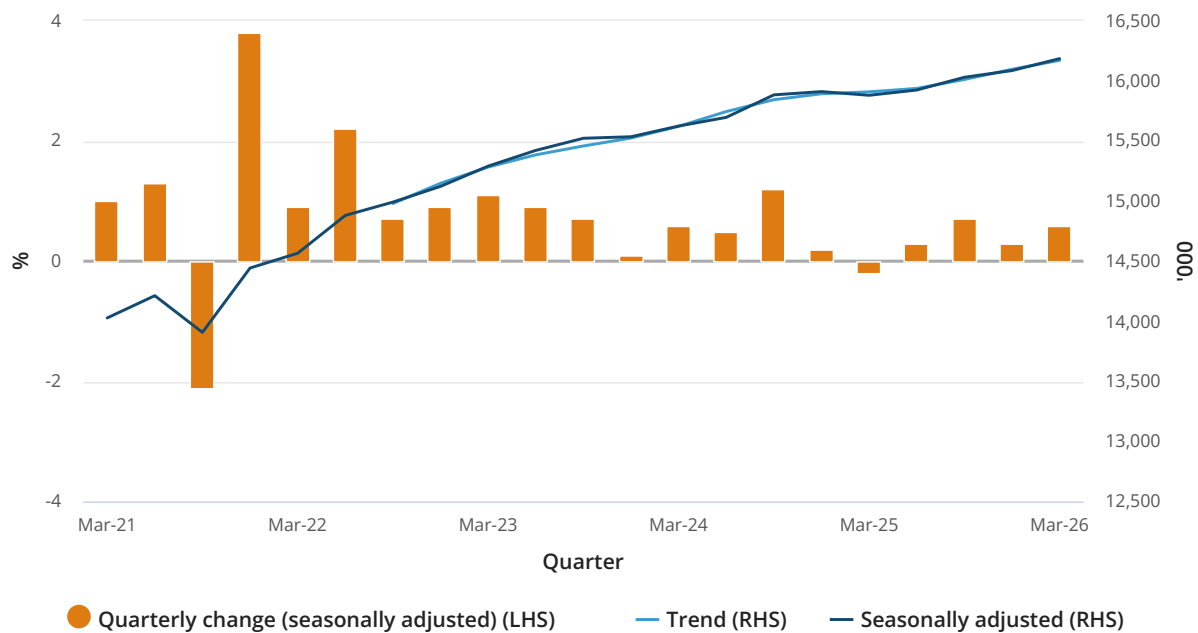
Total jobs, by industry, seasonally adjusted



Filled jobs

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026, the number of filled jobs increased by 99,400 to 16.2 million.

Filled jobs, seasonally adjusted and trend (a)



a. Larger than usual quarter-to-quarter changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period.

Filled jobs, by industry, March quarter 2026, seasonally adjusted

	Filled jobs ('000)	Quarterly change (%)	Annual change (%)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)	441.7	0.0	-0.3
Mining (B)	232.1	1.0	1.9
Manufacturing (C)	904.3	0.3	-2.1
Electricity, gas, water and waste services (D)	151.9	1.9	5.4
Construction (E)	1,335.5	0.8	3.8
Wholesale trade (F)	586.1	1.1	-0.6
Retail trade (G)	1,522.0	0.4	0.4
Accommodation and food services (H)	1,297.0	-0.5	3.3
Transport, postal and warehousing (I)	724.1	1.0	2.9
Information media and telecommunications (J)	205.5	0.0	-0.8
Financial and insurance services (K)	523.7	1.1	3.0
Rental, hiring and real estate services (L)	306.2	1.3	3.3
Professional, scientific and technical services (M)	1,323.5	1.0	1.8
Administrative and support services (N)	968.7	1.4	2.9
Public administration and safety (O)	889.7	-0.1	2.2
Education and training (P)	1,344.2	1.6	3.9
Health care and social assistance (Q)	2,559.1	0.2	1.2
Arts and recreation services (R)	295.4	0.5	3.5
Other services (S)	574.3	1.0	3.0
Total all industries	16,185.0	0.6	1.9

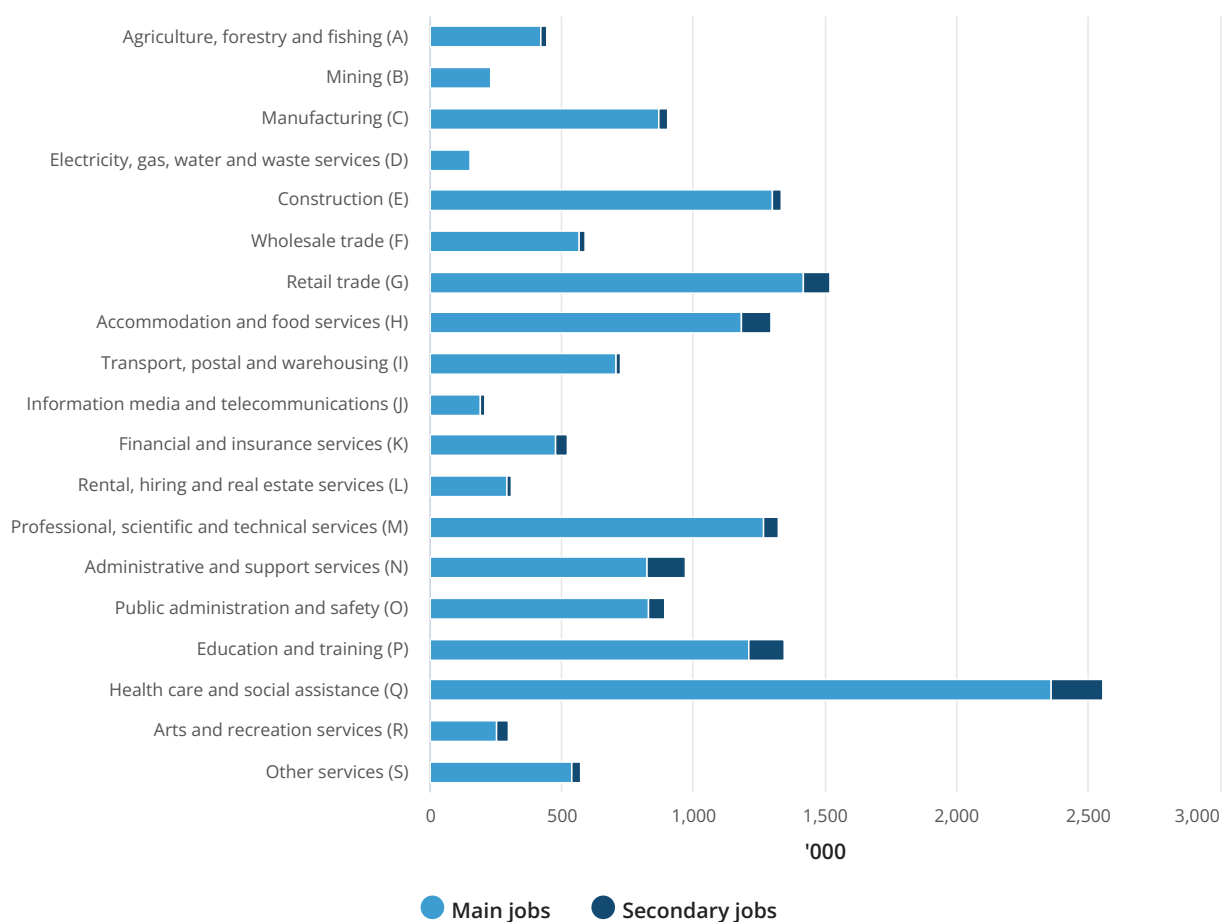
Main and secondary jobs

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026:

- main jobs increased by 92,600 (or 0.6%)
- secondary jobs increased by 6,700 (or 0.6%)
- the proportion of secondary jobs to filled jobs increased to 6.8%.

The three industries with the highest number of secondary jobs were Health care and social assistance, Administrative and support services, and Education and training.

Main and secondary jobs, by industry, seasonally adjusted



Secondary jobs can be held by people who have their main job in the same or a different industry.

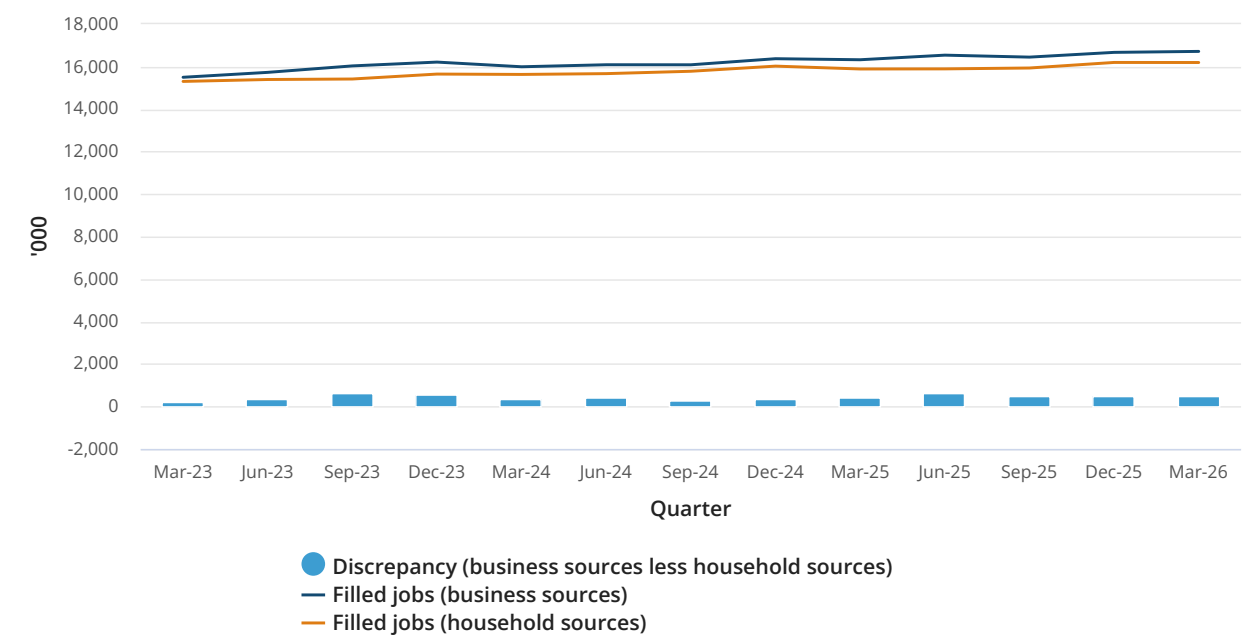
Statistical discrepancy - Filled jobs



The Labour Account compiles independent estimates of the number of filled jobs from both a household and business perspective. The difference between these two estimates is referred to as the "statistical discrepancy". The household estimates of filled jobs are considered the best measure of labour market activity at the total economy level, while business sources are considered more reliable estimating the distribution of jobs across industries. As a result, the Labour Account filled jobs estimates are constrained (equivalent) to the household side.

The discrepancy between the two sources is reduced to zero through the balancing processes of the Labour Account, producing a single harmonised or "balanced" number of filled jobs. The balanced estimate of filled jobs incorporates the advantage of the industry distribution derived from business side data, whilst constraining to a total economy estimate sourced from household side data. In original terms the discrepancy between household sources and business sources was 523,300 jobs in the March quarter 2026, or 3.2% of the household estimate.

Filled jobs discrepancy, original



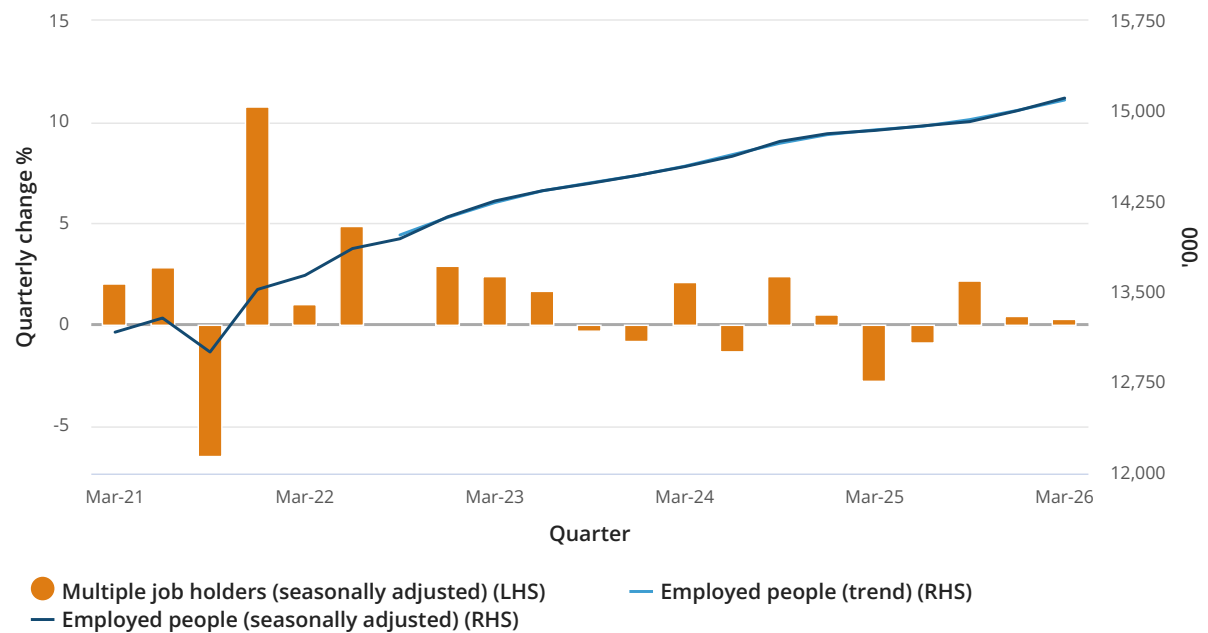
Balancing decisions for Rental, hiring and real estate services and Other services were mostly based on household survey sources. All other industries were mostly based on business survey sources.

People

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026:

- the total number of employed people increased by 0.7% to 15.1 million
- the number of [multiple job holders \(/statistics/labour/jobs/multiple-job-holders/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/jobs/multiple-job-holders/latest-release) increased by 0.3%
- unemployed people increased by 21,700 people to 650,000.

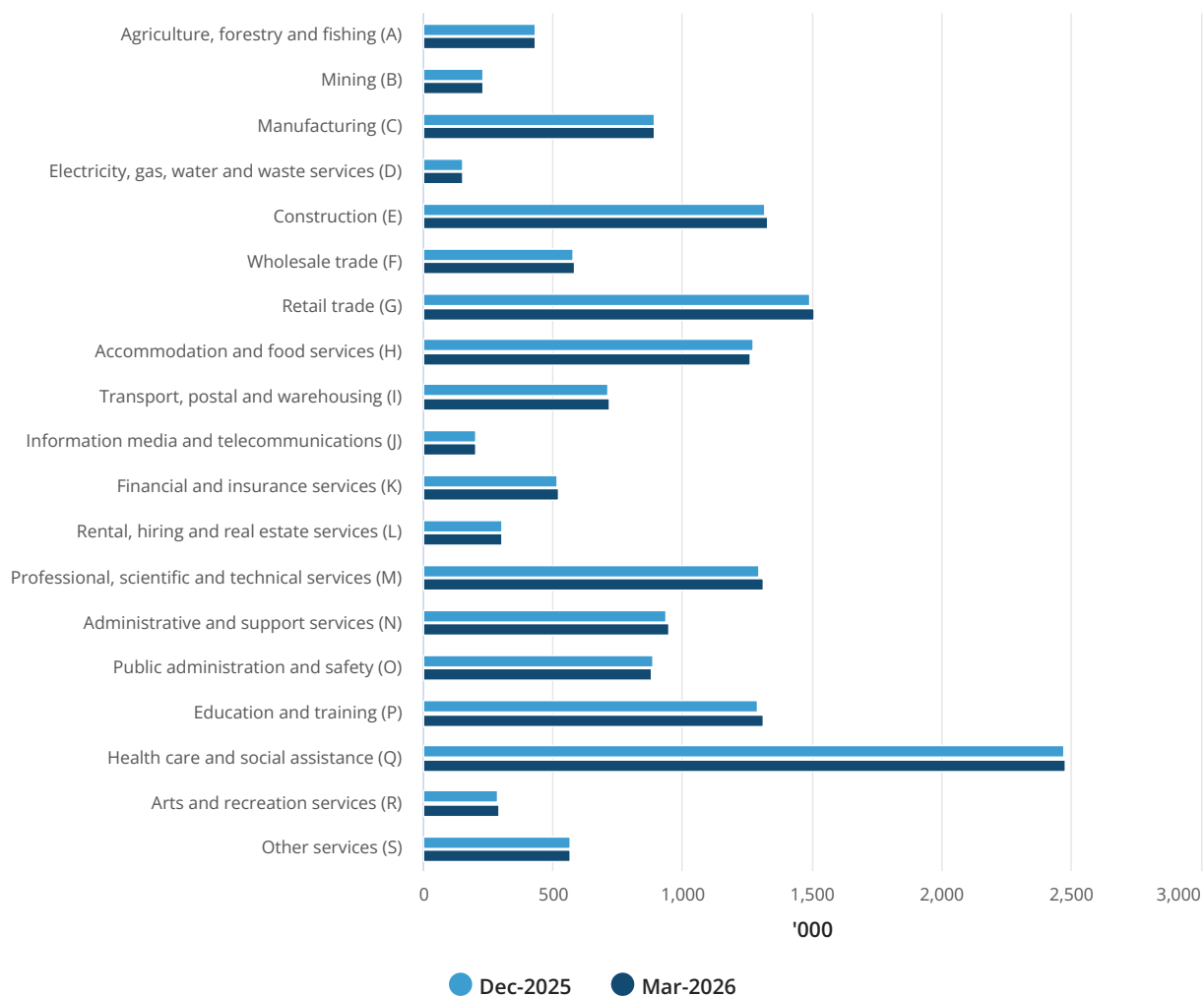
Employed people and multiple job-holders, seasonally adjusted and trend (a)



a. Larger than usual quarter-to-quarter changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period.

The three industries with the highest number of employed people in the March quarter 2026 were Health care and social assistance, Retail trade, and Construction.

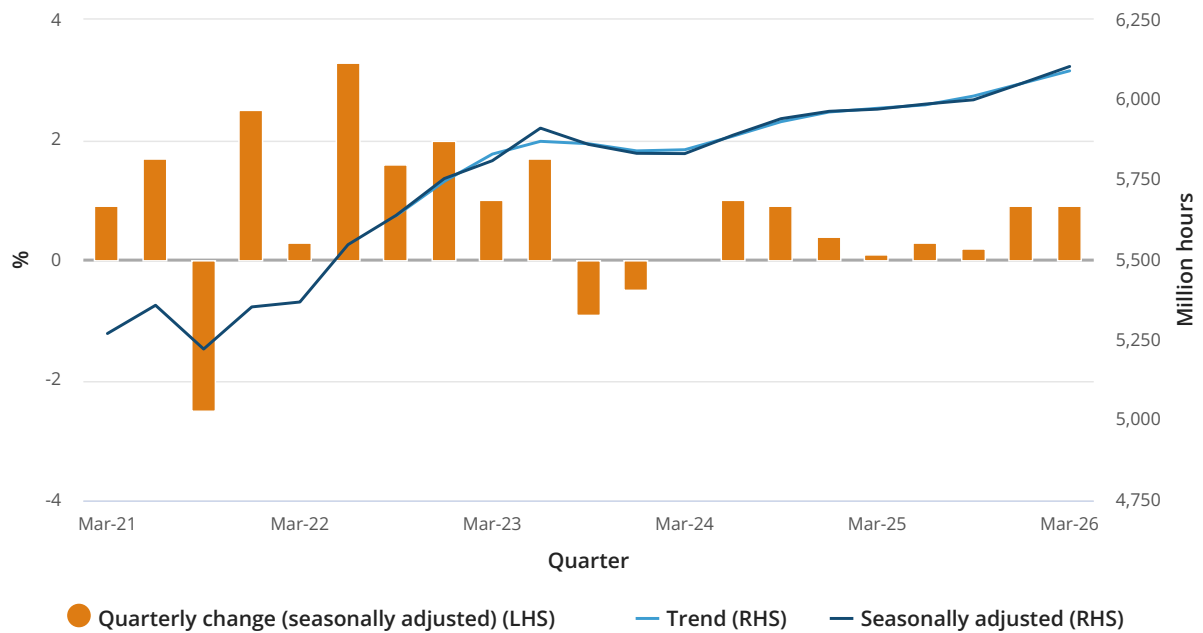
Employed people, by industry, seasonally adjusted



Hours

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026, the total number of hours actually worked increased by 52.9 million hours (or 0.9%) to 6.1 billion hours.

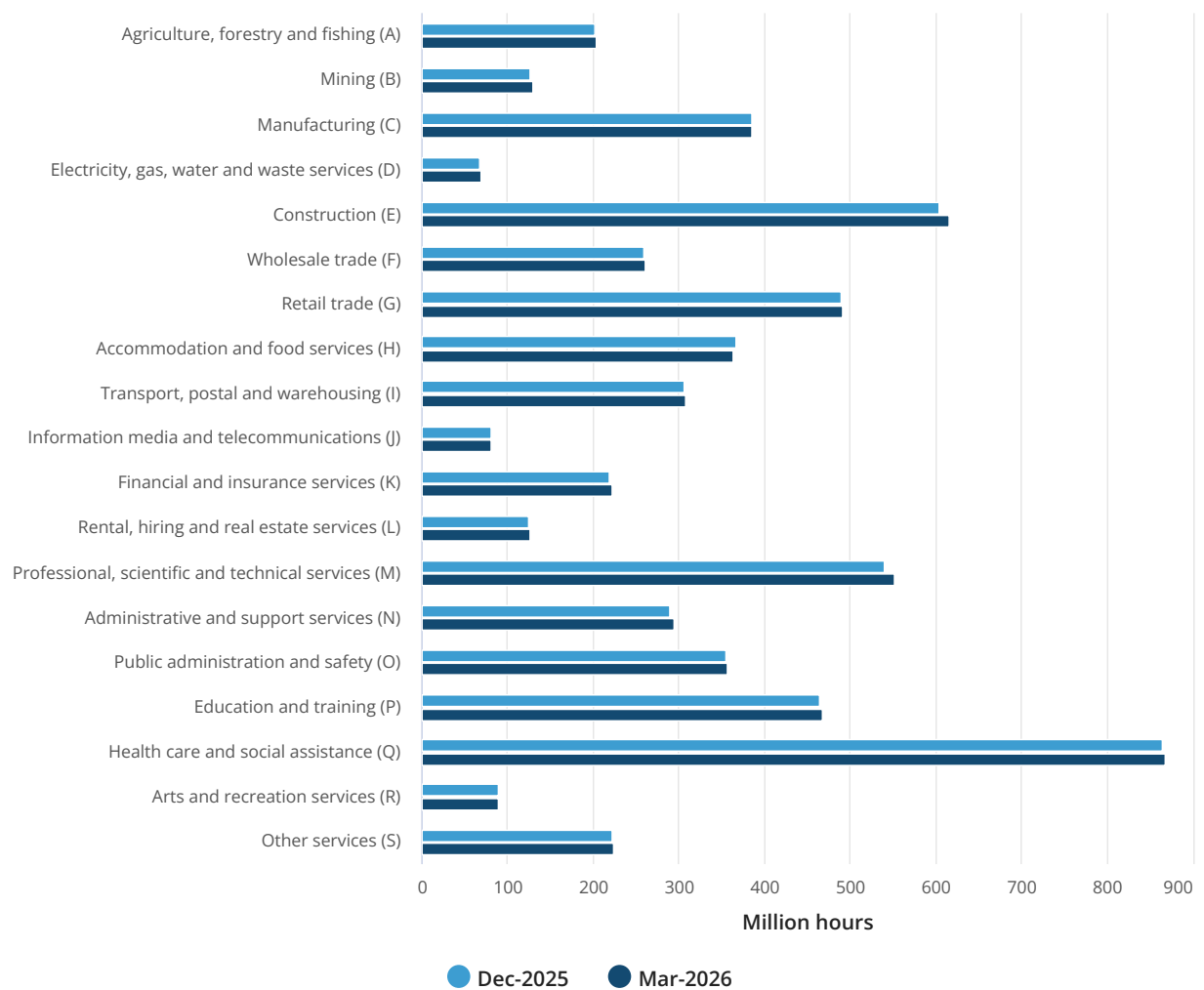
Hours actually worked, seasonally adjusted and trend (a)



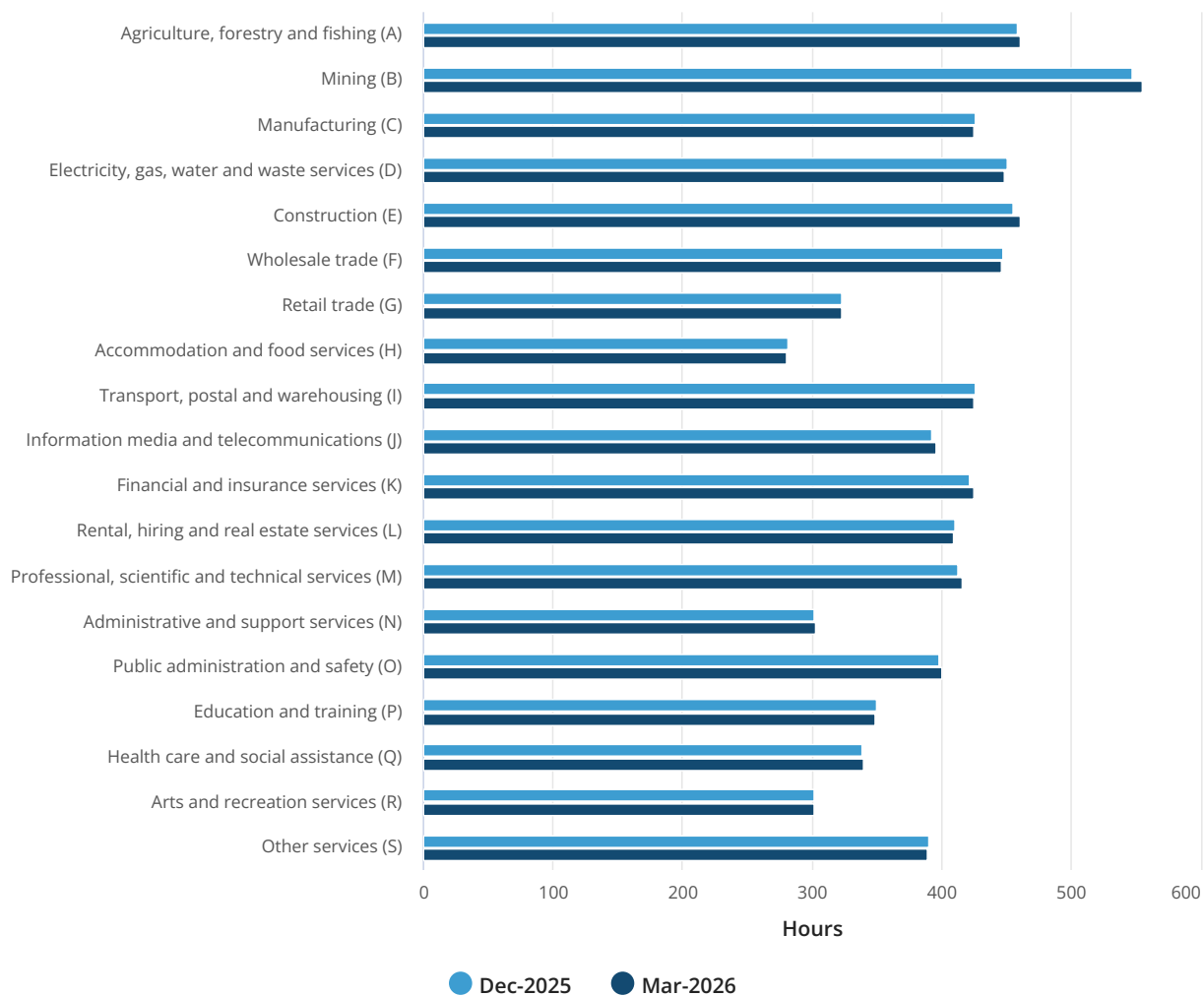
a. Larger than usual quarter-to-quarter changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period.

The three industries with the highest number of hours actually worked in the March quarter 2026 were Health care and social assistance, Construction, and Professional, scientific and technical services.

Hours actually worked, by industry, seasonally adjusted



Quarterly hours worked per job, by industry, seasonally adjusted



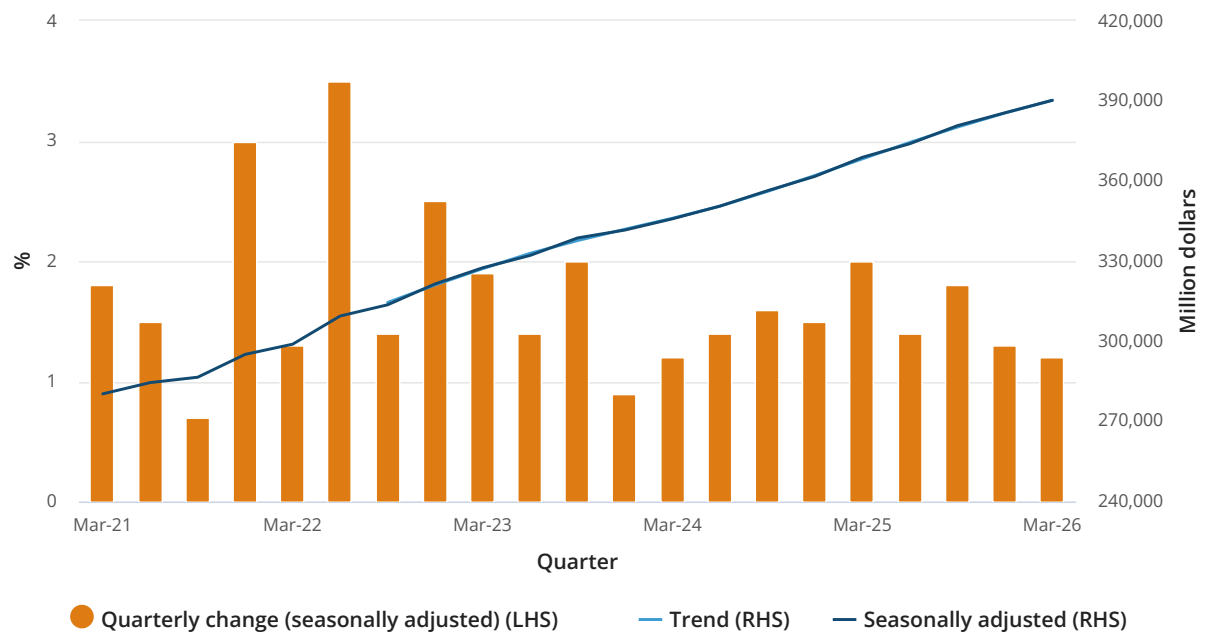
Payments

The Labour Account Payments quadrant presents the costs incurred by enterprises in employing labour, and the income received by people from its provision. Total income consists of compensation of employees and labour income from self-employment. The addition of other related costs to employers to total income will derive total labour costs.

In seasonally adjusted terms for the March quarter 2026:

- total labour income increased by \$4,686 million (or 1.2%) to \$390,216 million
- the average labour income per employed person increased by 0.5% to \$25,825
- total compensation of employees increased by 1.2% to \$360,081 million
- labour income from self-employment increased by 1.7% to \$30,135 million
- total labour costs increased by \$5,244 million (or 1.3%) to \$415,736 million.

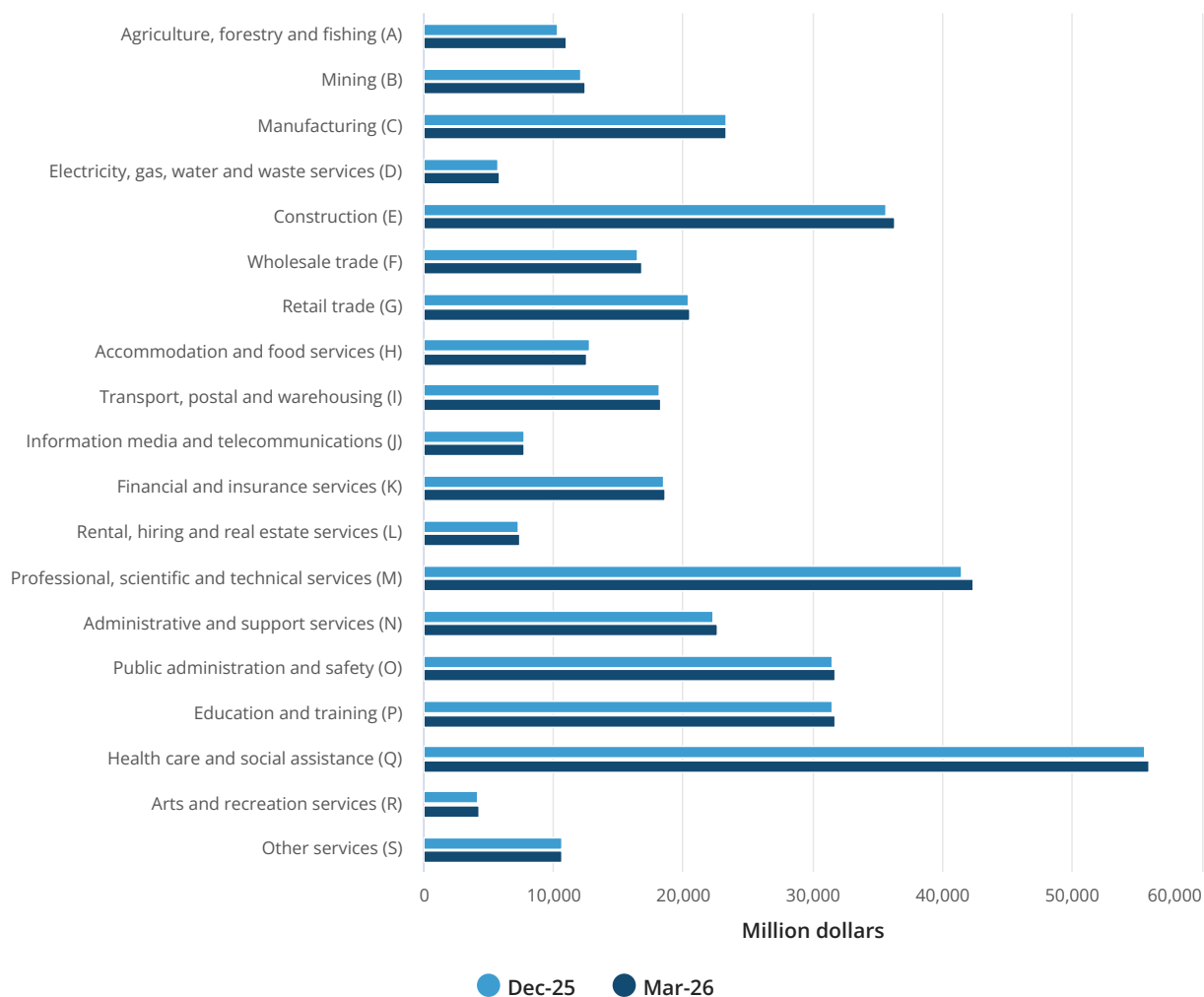
Total labour income, seasonally adjusted and trend (a)



a. Larger than usual quarter-to-quarter changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period.

The three industries with the highest total labour income in the March quarter 2026 were Health care and social assistance, Professional, scientific and technical services, and Construction.

Total labour income, by industry, seasonally adjusted



Factors affecting interpretation

Stock and flow estimates

The Labour Account includes a combination of stock and flow time series estimates. A stock series is a measure of certain attributes at a point in time. A flow series is a measure of activity over a given period.

The Jobs and People quadrants contain stock time series estimates measuring change from the end of the proceeding quarter to the end of the current quarter. The Hours and Payments quadrants include flow time series estimates and measure all activity across the reference quarter.

For more information, please refer to [Time series data \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/statistical-terms-and-concepts/time-series-data\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/statistical-terms-and-concepts/time-series-data).

Guide to labour statistics

The Labour Account is the best source of quarterly industry and sector data. To learn more about our different labour measures, their purpose and how to use them, refer to our [Guide to labour statistics \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/statistical-terms-and-concepts/time-series-data\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/statistical-terms-and-concepts/time-series-data).

[g-statistics/guide-labour-statistics#data-impacts-and-changes](#)). It provides summary information on labour market topics including [Industry employment guide \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide#data-impacts-and-changes\)](#) data.

Data downloads

Time series spreadsheets

[Download all \(10.27 MB\)](#)

Quarterly estimates for Jobs, People, Hours and Payments by Industry Division and Total All Industries.

Industry summary table

[Download XLSX](#)

[503.69 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/Industry%20summary%20table.xlsx\)](#)

Table 1. Total all industries - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[Download XLSX](#)

[427.34 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO001.xlsx\)](#)

Table 2. Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[Download XLSX](#)

[409.04 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO002.xlsx\)](#)

Table 3. Mining (B) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[Download XLSX](#)

[408.47 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO003.xlsx\)](#)

Table 4. Manufacturing (C) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[Download XLSX](#)

[408.64 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO004.xlsx\)](#)

Table 5. Electricity, gas, water and waste services (D) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

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[404.41 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO005.xlsx\)](#)

Table 6. Construction (E) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

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[408.63 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO006.xlsx\)](#)

Table 7. Wholesale trade (F) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[Download XLSX](#)

[408.16 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO007.xlsx\)](#)

Table 8. Retail trade (G) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

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[408.02 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO008.xlsx\)](#)

Table 9. Accommodation and food services (H) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[409.03 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO009.xlsx)

Table 10. Transport, postal and warehousing (I) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408.82 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO010.xlsx)

Table 11. Information media and telecommunications (J) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[409.06 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO011.xlsx)

Table 12. Financial and insurance services (K) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[405.6 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO012.xlsx)

Table 13. Rental, hiring and real estate services (L) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408.14 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO013.xlsx)

Table 14. Professional, scientific and technical services (M) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408.77 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO014.xlsx)

Table 15. Administrative and support services (N) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[409.17 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO015.xlsx)

Table 16. Public administration and safety (O) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[406.2 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO016.xlsx)

Table 17. Education and training (P) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[409.34 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO017.xlsx)

Table 18. Health care and social assistance (Q) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO018.xlsx)

Table 19. Arts and recreation services (R) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408.76 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO019.xlsx)

Table 20. Other services (S) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[408.46 KB]

(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO020.xlsx)

Table 21. Unbalanced: total all industries - original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[137.59 KB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO021.xlsx\)](/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO021.xlsx)

Table 22. Quarterly revisions

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[2.18 MB]

[\(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO022.xlsx\)](/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/mar-2026/6150055003DO022.xlsx)

Pivot Tables: Modelled Sex and Age group estimates in the Labour Account

Quarterly sex and age group estimates for Jobs, People, Hours and Payments by Industry Division and Total all industries

March quarter 2026 Pivot tables to be released 12/06/2026

Subdivision datasets

Industry subdivision estimates are available through Data Explorer.

Data Explorer datasets

[Labour Account balanced](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?fs%5b0%5d=Labour%2C0%7CEmployment%20and%20unemployment%23EMPLOYMENT_UNEMPLOYMENT%23&pg=0&fc=Labour&df%5bds%5d=LABOUR_TOPICS&df%5bid%5d=LABOUR_ACCT_Q&df%5bag%5d=ABS&df%5bvs%5d=)) ([https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?fs%5b0%5d=Labour%2C0%7CEmployment%20and%20unemployment%23EMPLOYMENT_UNEMPLOYMENT%23&pg=0&fc=Labour&df%5bds%5d=LABOUR_TOPICS&df%5bid%5d=LABOUR_ACCT_Q&df%5bag%5d=ABS&df%5bvs%5d=\)](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?fs%5b0%5d=Labour%2C0%7CEmployment%20and%20unemployment%23EMPLOYMENT_UNEMPLOYMENT%23&pg=0&fc=Labour&df%5bds%5d=LABOUR_TOPICS&df%5bid%5d=LABOUR_ACCT_Q&df%5bag%5d=ABS&df%5bvs%5d=))

- Quarterly balanced original estimates for Jobs, People, Hours and Payments are available by Industry Subdivision, Division and Total all industries.
- Quarterly balanced seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for Job, People, Hours and Payments are available by Industry Division and Total all industries.

For information on Data Explorer and how it works, refer to the [Data explorer user guide](/about/data-services/data-explorer/data-explorer-user-guide) (</about/data-services/data-explorer/data-explorer-user-guide>).

Article archive

Previous feature articles



[Modelled state and territory industry estimates: jobs and hours worked](/articles/modelled-state-and-territory-industry-estimates-jobs-and-hours-worked) (</articles/modelled-state-and-territory-industry-estimates-jobs-and-hours-worked>) (June 2025)

[Insights into the Australian labour market](/articles/insights-australian-labour-market) (</articles/insights-australian-labour-market>) (March 2025)

[Spotlight on the Australia labour market over the last 30 years](/articles/spotlight-australian-labour-market-over-last-30-years) (</articles/spotlight-australian-labour-market-over-last-30-years>) (September 2024)

[Modelled state and territory jobs and hours worked estimates by industry](/articles/modelled-state-and-territory-jobs-and-hours-worked-estimates-industry) (</articles/modelled-state-and-territory-jobs-and-hours-worked-estimates-industry>) (June 2024)

[Spotlight on the Labour Account](/articles/spotlight-labour-account) (</articles/spotlight-labour-account>) (March 2024)

[Modelled indicative state and territory level industry jobs and hours worked estimates](/articles/modelled-indicative-state-and-territory-level-industry-jobs-and-hours-worked-estimates) (</articles/modelled-indicative-state-and-territory-level-industry-jobs-and-hours-worked-estimates>) (June 2023)

[Modelling indicative state level industry jobs estimates from the Labour Account](/articles/modelling-indicative-state-level-industry-jobs-estimates-labour-account) (</articles/modelling-indicative-state-level-industry-jobs-estimates-labour-account>) (June 2022)

[Status in employment by industry \(/articles/status-employment-industry\)](#) (June 2021)

[An overview of ABS statistics on multiple job-holding \(/articles/multiple-job-holders\)](#) (March 2021)

[Assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the Labour Account: a year since the onset of COVID-19 \(/articles/assessing-imp-act-covid-19-labour-account-year-onset-covid-19\)](#) (March 2021)

[Public sector's share of jobs decreases over the past nine years \(/articles/public-sectors-share-jobs-decreases-over-past-nine-years\)](#) (September 2019)

[Jobs growth over the past 25 years \(/articles/jobs-growth-over-past-25-years\)](#) (September 2019)

[Secondary jobs and multiple job holders in the Labour Account \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article2June%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=June%202019&num=&view=\)](#) (June 2019)

[How many jobs are there in Professional, scientific and technical Services? \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article1June%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=June%202019&num=&view=\)](#) (June 2019)

[Proportion of vacant jobs - a new labour market measure \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article2March%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=March%202019&num=&view=\)](#) (March 2019)

[How many jobs are there in Manufacturing? \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article1March%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=March%202019&num=&view=\)](#) (March 2019)

[The potential for public and private sector information \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article1December%202018?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=December%202018&num=&view=\)](#) (December 2018)

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[Impact of the Labour Account on productivity estimates \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article2September%202017?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=September%202017&num=&view=\)](#) (September 2017)

[Construction industry \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article3September%202017?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=September%202017&num=&view=\)](#) (September 2017)

[Education and training industry \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article4September%202017?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=September%202017&num=&view=\)](#) (September 2017)

[Health care and social assistance industry \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6150.0.55.003Feature%20Article5September%202017?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6150.0.55.003&issue=September%202017&num=&view=\)](#) (September 2017)

Methodology

[Labour Account Australia methodology, March 2026 \(/methodologies/labour-account-australia-methodology/mar-2026\)](#)